



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

**REGION 8**  
**999 18<sup>TH</sup> STREET - SUITE 300**  
**DENVER, CO 80202-2466**  
**Phone 800-227-8917**  
**<http://www.epa.gov/region08>**

Ref: 8ENF-L

**SENT VIA FACSIMILE AND CERTIFIED MAIL**  
**RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Darrell Martin, President  
Fort Belknap Community Council  
R.R. 1, Box 66  
Harlem, MT 59526

J. Kirby King, Manager  
Fort Belknap Utilities  
R.R. 1 Box 66  
Harlem, MT 59526

Re: Closure of Emergency Administrative  
Order and Discontinuation of Boil Order  
Docket No. SDWA-8-2000-28,  
PWS ID #3090041

Dear President Martin and Mr. King:

This letter is to inform you of the Environmental Protection Agency's ("EPA") decision to close the Emergency Administrative Order ("EAO") issued to Fort Belknap Utilities in the above-referenced matter on May 29, 2000, and to discontinue the Boil Order placed in effect on or about February 26, 2002. EPA's decision is based, in part, on information recently provided by the Tribe in support of its EAO closure request on April 26, 2004. Additionally, EPA's decision is based on the Fort Belknap Agency Water System's ("System") compliance with the turbidity and disinfection standards for the past 21 months and the System's compliance with the total coliform monitoring reporting requirements for the past 16 months.

I would like to commend you and your staff on the high degree of cooperation and promptness in addressing the situation. Please be aware, however, that Fort Belknap Utilities is still required to comply with the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations ("NPDWRs"), 40 CFR part 141, including all monitoring requirements applicable to the System. Violation of the NPWDRs may subject the Tribe to civil penalties of up to \$27,500 per day of violation.



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If you have any technical questions regarding this matter, the most knowledgeable person on my staff is Jay Sinnott, who can be reached at (406) 457-5017. If you have legal questions, please contact Amy Swanson at (303) 312-6906.

Sincerely,

**SIGNED**

John F. Wardell, Director  
Montana Office

**SIGNED**

Michael T. Risner, Director  
David J. Janik, Supervisory Attorney  
Legal Enforcement Program

cc: Stan Zander, Tribal Sanitarian  
Bill Stiffarm, IHS  
Richard Oksness, IHS

**THIS DOCUMENT WAS FILED IN THE REGIONAL HEARING CLERK'S OFFICE  
ON MAY 25, 2004.**